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ABSTRACT

Noting that the southern region of the United States is challenged by some of the most difficult and entrenched economic, health, and social problems that place children at risk, this chartbook presents information on indicators of the current status of children and families in the South and contrasts conditions in the South with those in other regions. The chartbook is intended to build knowledge and stimulate dialogue among public and private leaders on actions needed to support low-income children and families. Indicator charts are organized in four sections: (1) economic factors (median household income, poverty rate, child poverty rate, families receiving TANF, and participation in food stamp program); (2) health (uninsured children, infant mortality, low birthweight infants, percent of mothers with late or no prenatal care, teen birth rates, teen pregnancy rates); (3) child care (percent of eligible children served by state/federal child care subsidies); and (4) education (high school dropout, percent of 18- to 24-year-olds enrolled in college, and percent of adults with bachelor's degrees or higher). Each chart presents state- or region-wide data and has an accompanying narrative comparing the southern region with other regions and the national average. These indicator charts show that the median household income in the South was approximately \$3,700 less than the U.S. median income. Twelve southern states and the District of Columbia had poverty rates higher than the U.S. rate. Forty-one percent of uninsured children in the U.S. live in the south. Forty-two percent of all infant deaths in 1999 were in the south. The southern states served only 15 percent of children eligible for the state/federal child care subsidy system. Twelve southern states and the District of Columbia had dropout rates above the U.S. median. The chartbook's appendix contains 15 supporting data tables. (KB)

THE SOUTHERN INSTITUTE on Children and Families

Chartbook of Major Indicators:

Conditions Placing Children in the South at Risk



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CHARTBOOK OF MAJOR INDICATORS:
CONDITIONS PLACING
CHILDREN IN THE SOUTH AT RISK

Prepared by
Southern Institute on Children and Families
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Columbia, SC 29201
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www.kidsouth.org

August 2002

SOUTHERN INSTITUTE ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

The Southern Institute on Children and Families is an independent, non-profit public policy organization founded in 1990. It endeavors to improve opportunities for children and families in the South with a focus on disadvantaged children.

Through special projects and surveys, the Southern Institute on Children and Families spotlights health, education, social and economic issues of regional significance. It works to encourage public/private-sector collaboration on behalf of children and families and seeks to remove bureaucratic and other barriers that restrict access to needed benefits and services. The Southern Institute on Children and Families is funded through grants and contributions. The southern states included in the work of the Southern Institute on Children and Families are:

**Alabama
Arkansas
Delaware
District of Columbia
Florida
Georgia
Kentucky
Louisiana
Maryland
Mississippi
Missouri
North Carolina
Oklahoma
South Carolina
Tennessee
Texas
Virginia
West Virginia**

While the primary focus of the Southern Institute on Children and Families is on the South, the Southern Institute directs national programs related to its mission.

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Chartbook of Major Indicators: Conditions Placing Children in the South at Risk

Introduction

The southern region of the United States is challenged by some of the most difficult and entrenched economic, health and social problems, and these longstanding issues continue to place children at risk. The South is plagued by high rates of child poverty, high rates of uninsured children, high rates of infant deaths and disabilities, unacceptable rates of students failing to graduate from high school and high rates of children whose low-income working parents cannot afford safe, quality child care.

The South is plagued by high rates of child poverty, high rates of uninsured children, high rates of infant deaths and disabilities, unacceptable rates of students failing to graduate from high school and high rates of children whose low-income working parents cannot afford safe, quality child care.

The Southern Institute on Children and Families is an independent, nonprofit public policy organization founded in 1990. The mission of the Southern Institute is to build regional, state, national and local leadership on behalf of low-income children and families through effective communication of the conditions of children and families and the strategies for improving those conditions. This mission is grounded in the belief that informed leaders will take action to improve the lives and future of children in the South.

To that end, the Southern Institute has developed a new presentation of existing data from reputable sources. The data are displayed by state and contrast conditions in the South with those in other regions. The chartbook illustrates that the status of many children and families in the South presents considerable challenges in the quest to improve opportunities for children. This new examination of available data shows:

The median household income in the Southern Region was approximately \$3,700 less than the United States median income. Twelve (12) southern states and the District of Columbia had lower median household incomes than the United States median income.

Twelve (12) southern states and the District of Columbia had poverty rates higher than the United States poverty rate.

Forty-one (41) percent of all uninsured children in the United States live in the Southern Region.

The median household income in the Southern Region was approximately \$3,700 less than the United States median income.

Forty-two (42) percent of all infant deaths in 1999 were in the Southern Region.

The southern states serve only fifteen (15) percent of children eligible for the state/federal child care subsidy program.

Twelve (12) southern states and the District of Columbia had dropout rates for ages 16-19 above the United States median of nine (9) percent.

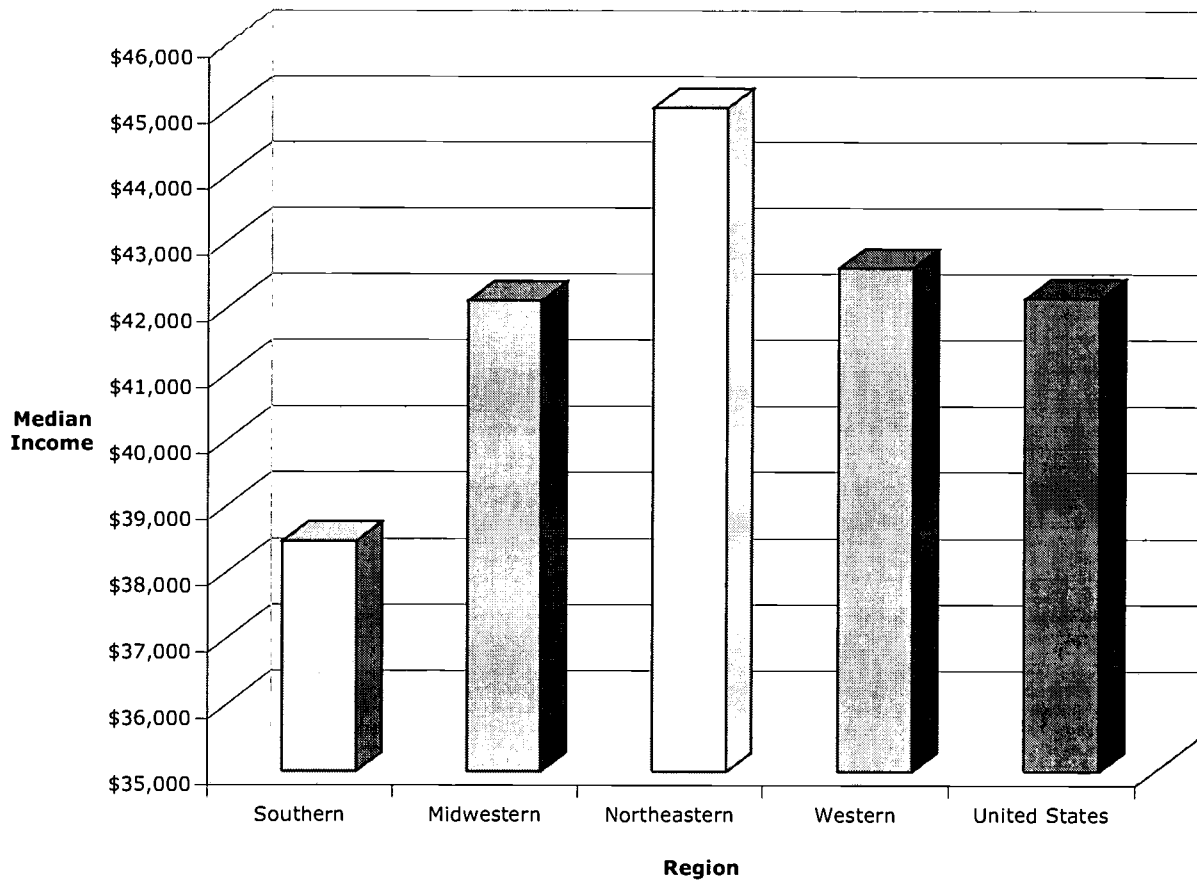
Families who are unable to meet basic needs face tremendous obstacles in fostering the development of their children. Many low-income working families do not earn enough to afford safe, quality child care, adequate health coverage and reliable transportation. Taking action to improve opportunities is critical to the future of children in the South and is a key strategy in building the capacity of the current and future workforce in the southern states.

The Southern Institute seeks to build knowledge and to stimulate dialogue among public and private leaders on actions needed to support low-income children and families. This chartbook is the first in what the Southern Institute plans to be an ongoing presentation of indicators that reflect conditions placing children and families in the South at risk. New indicators will be added in the future, and indicators will be updated as information becomes available. The chartbook, as well as strategies to address the issues, can be found on the Southern Institute's website at www.kidsouth.org.

**CHARTBOOK OF MAJOR INDICATORS:
CONDITIONS PLACING
CHILDREN IN THE SOUTH AT RISK**

Indicator Charts

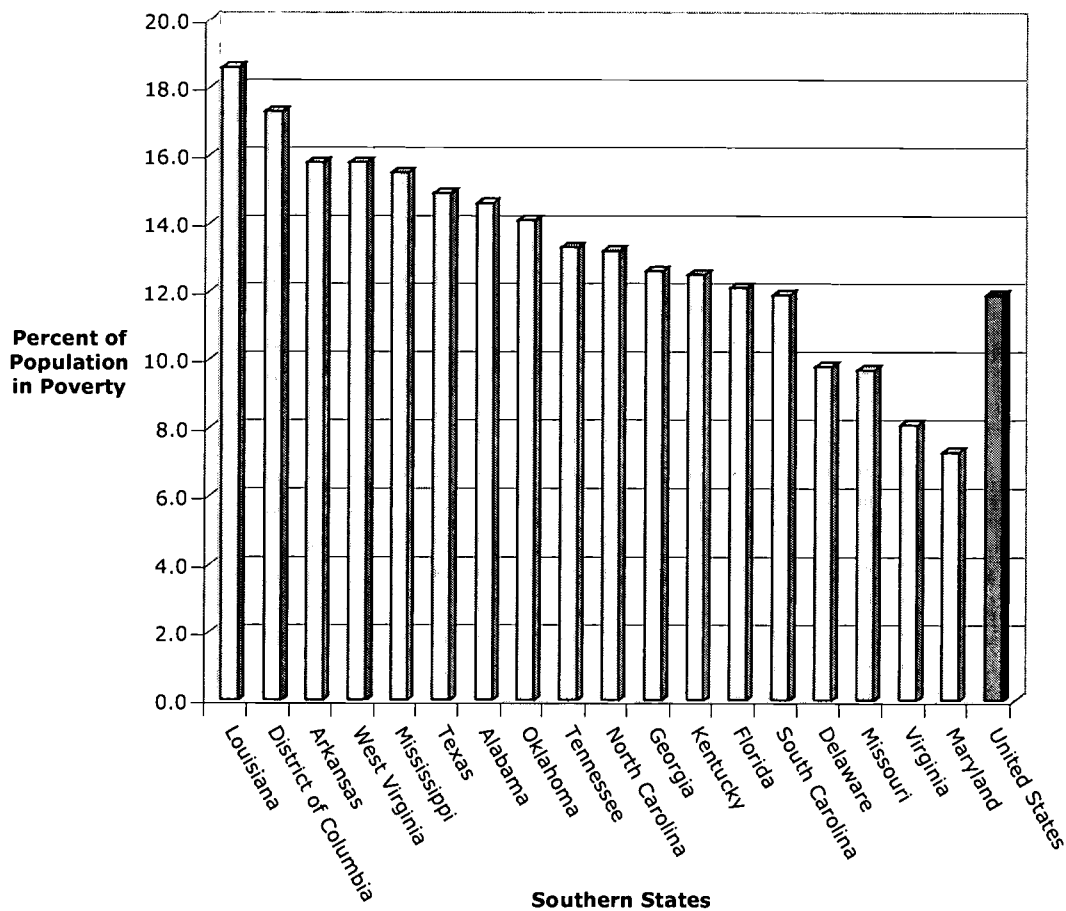
Chart 1
Median Household Income, 2000



Refer to Table 1, Median Household Income for 2000. Source: US Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, March 1999, 2000, and 2001.

The median household income in the Southern Region was approximately \$3,700 less than the United States median income. Twelve (12) southern states and the District of Columbia had lower median household incomes than the United States median income.

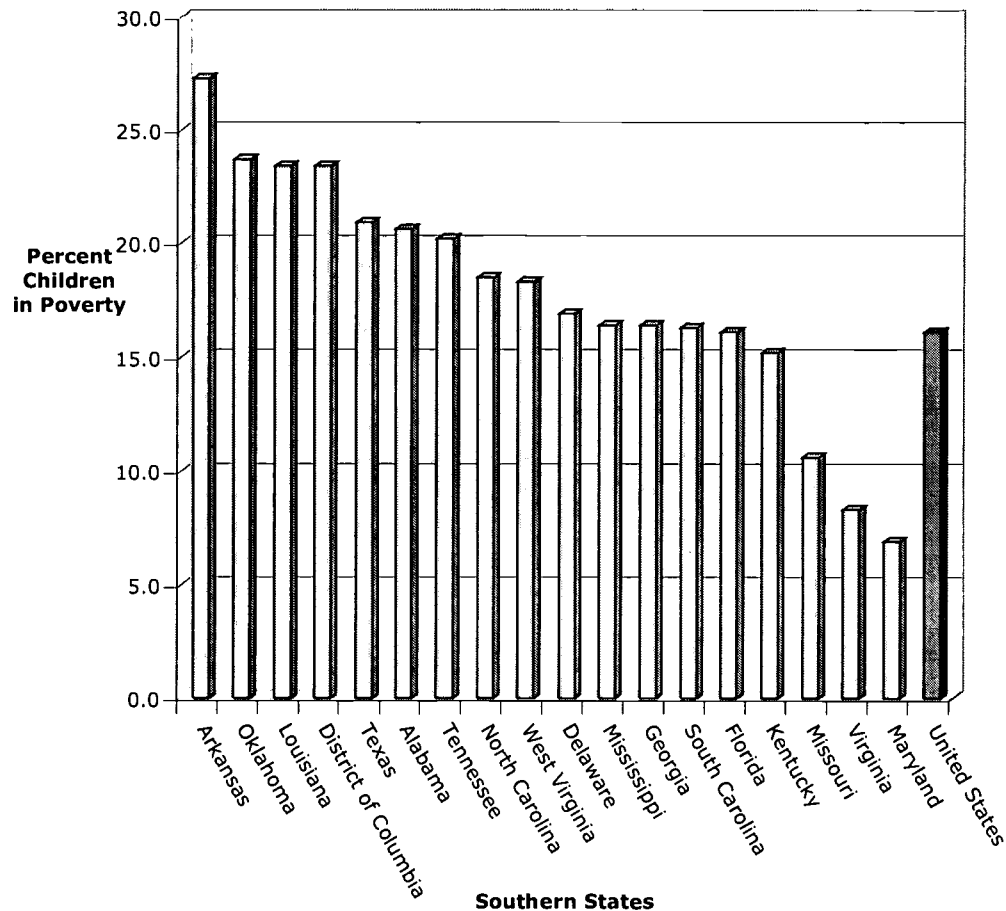
Chart 2
Percent of Population in Poverty
1998 - 2000



Refer to Table 2, Percent of Population in Poverty, 1998 - 2000. Source: Poverty in the United States: 2000. US Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, March 1999, 2000, 2001. The percentage is based on a three (3) year average for 1998 - 2000. Issued September 2001.

Twelve (12) southern states and the District of Columbia had poverty rates higher than the United States poverty rate.

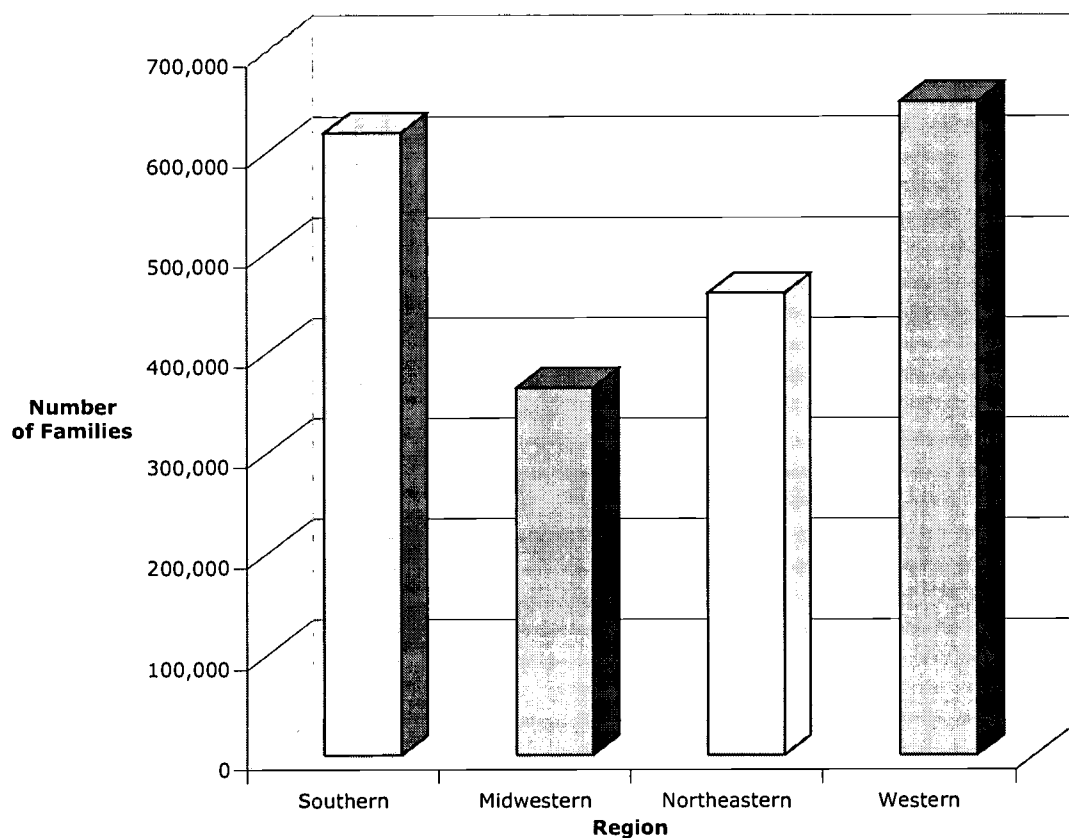
Chart 3
Percent of Children Under Age 18 in Poverty, 2000



Refer to Table 3, Percent of Children Under Age 18 in Poverty in the United States, 2000. Source: US Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, March 2001, Table 25. Poverty Status by State in 2000 (Based on a November 2001 weighted correction.)

Twelve (12) southern states and the District of Columbia exceeded the United States poverty rate for children living in poverty in 2000.

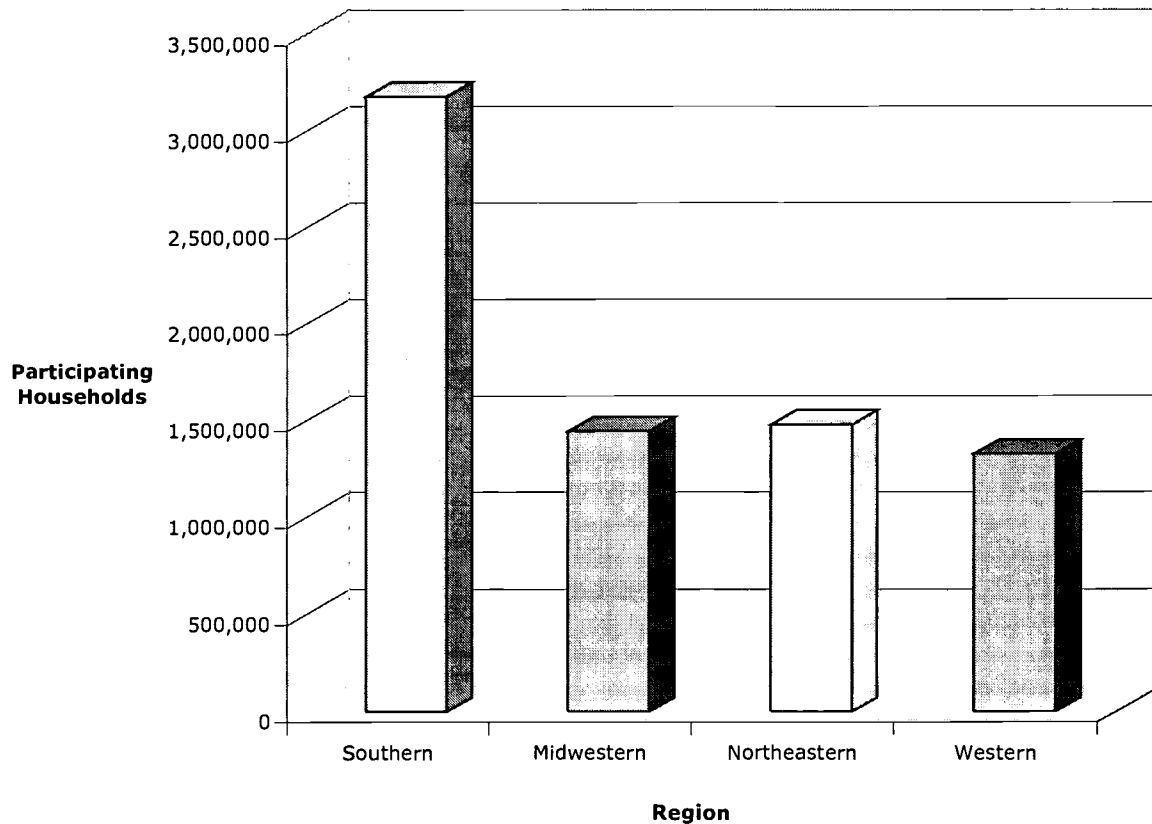
Chart 4
Average Monthly Number of Families Receiving TANF
Federal Fiscal Year 2001



Refer to Table 4, Average Monthly Number of Families Receiving TANF - Fiscal Year 2001. Source: US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, 2002.

Thirty (30) percent of all families receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in 2001 lived in the Southern Region.

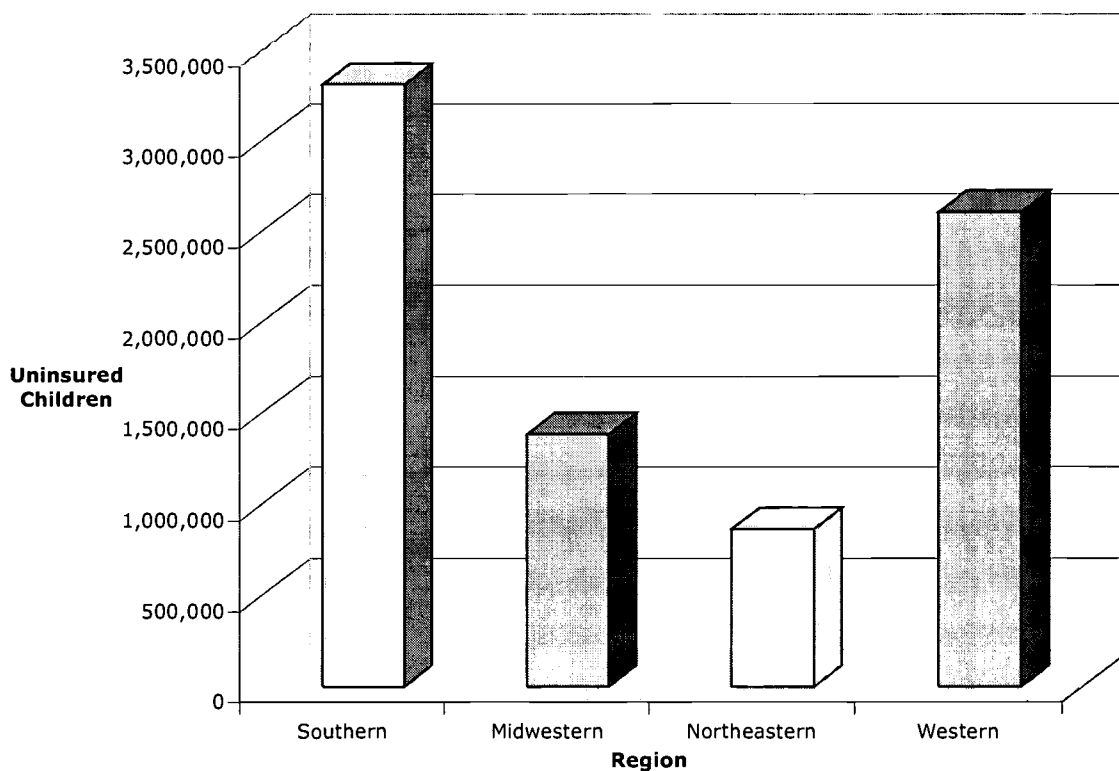
Chart 5
Average Monthly Household Participation in Food Stamps
Federal Fiscal Year 2001



Refer to Table 5, Average Monthly Household Participation in Food Stamps, Federal Fiscal Year 2001. Source: US Department of Agriculture.

Forty-three (43) percent of the households participating in the Food Stamp Program each month in Federal Fiscal Year 2001 lived in the Southern Region.

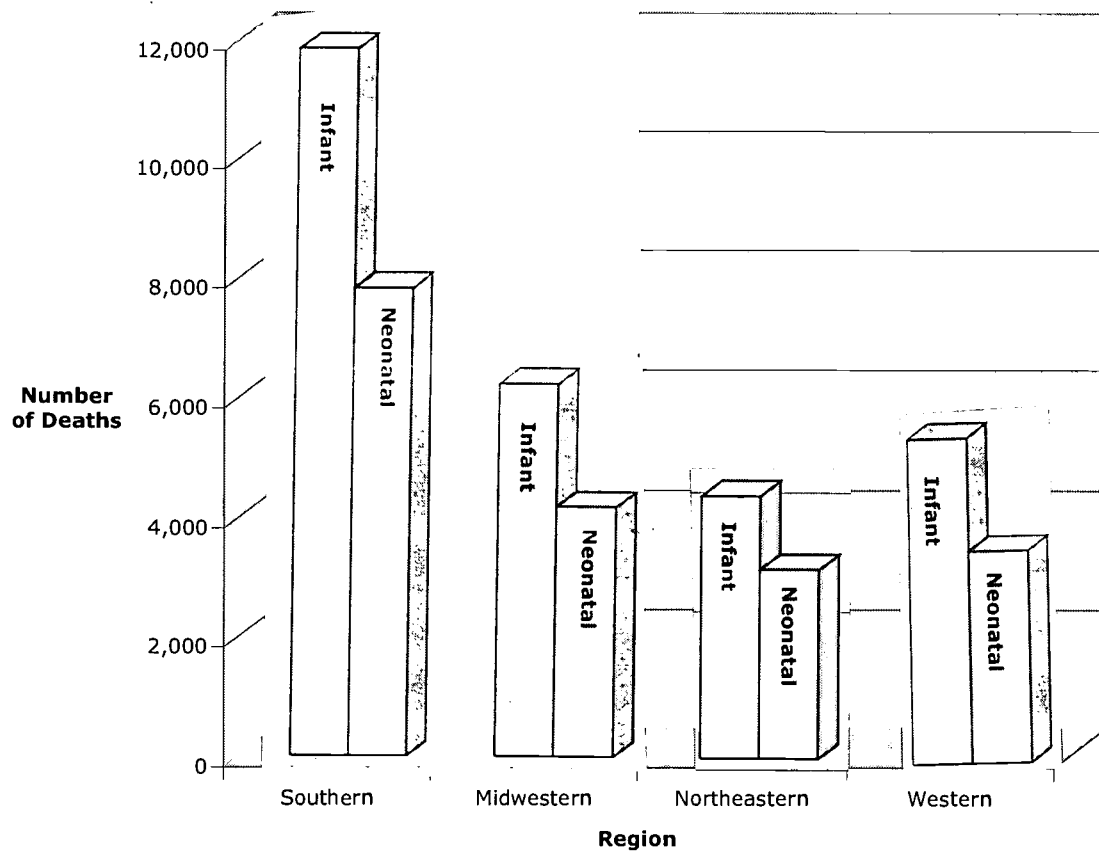
Chart 6
Estimate of Uninsured Children Ages 0-18



Refer to Table 6, Estimate of Uninsured Children (Ages 0-18). Source: The Urban Institute, 2002. Based on merged March 2000 and 2001 Current Population Survey Data, weighted to represent one (1) year, with adjustments for reported changes in Medicaid and SCHIP as of December 2001.

Forty-one (41) percent of all uninsured children in the United States live in the Southern Region.

Chart 7
Infant Mortality, 1999

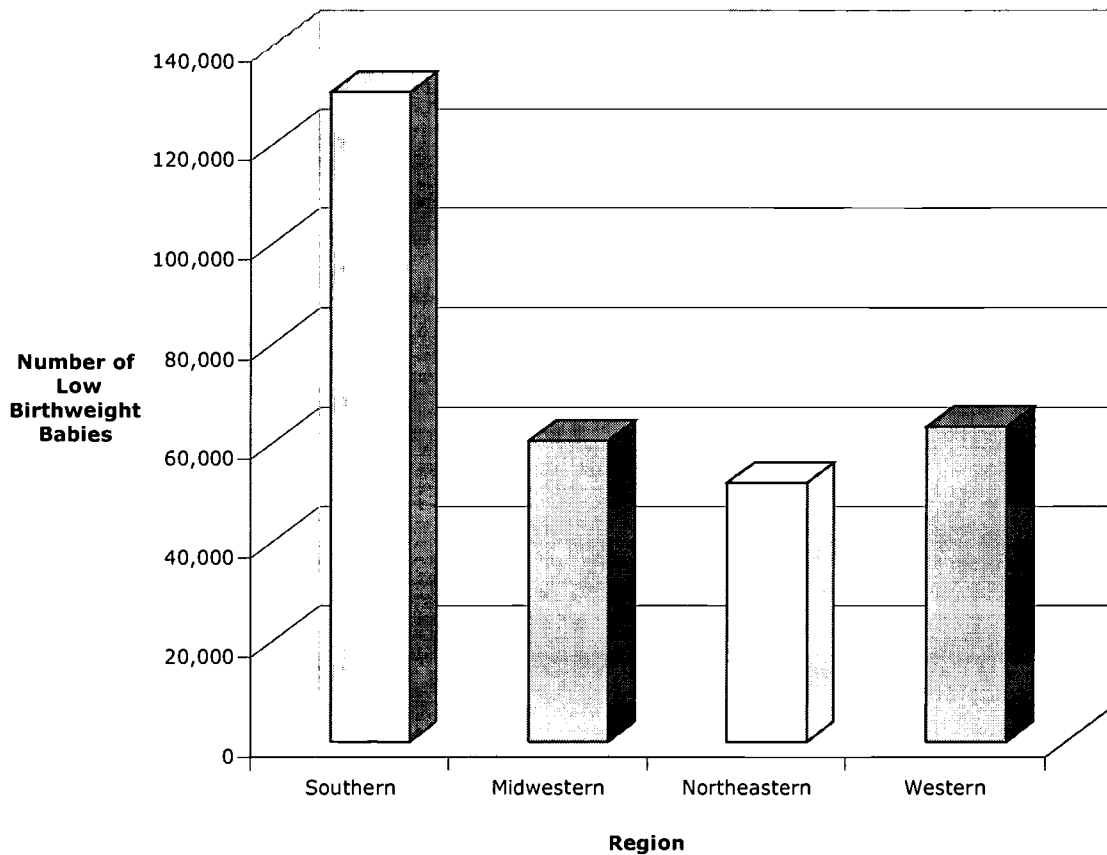


Refer to Table 7, Infant Mortality, 1999. Source: National Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 49, No. 8, September 21, 2001, Table 29. Infant deaths are children under 1 year and neonatal deaths occur to infants ages 0 - 27 days.

Forty-two (42) percent of all infant deaths in 1999 were in the Southern Region.

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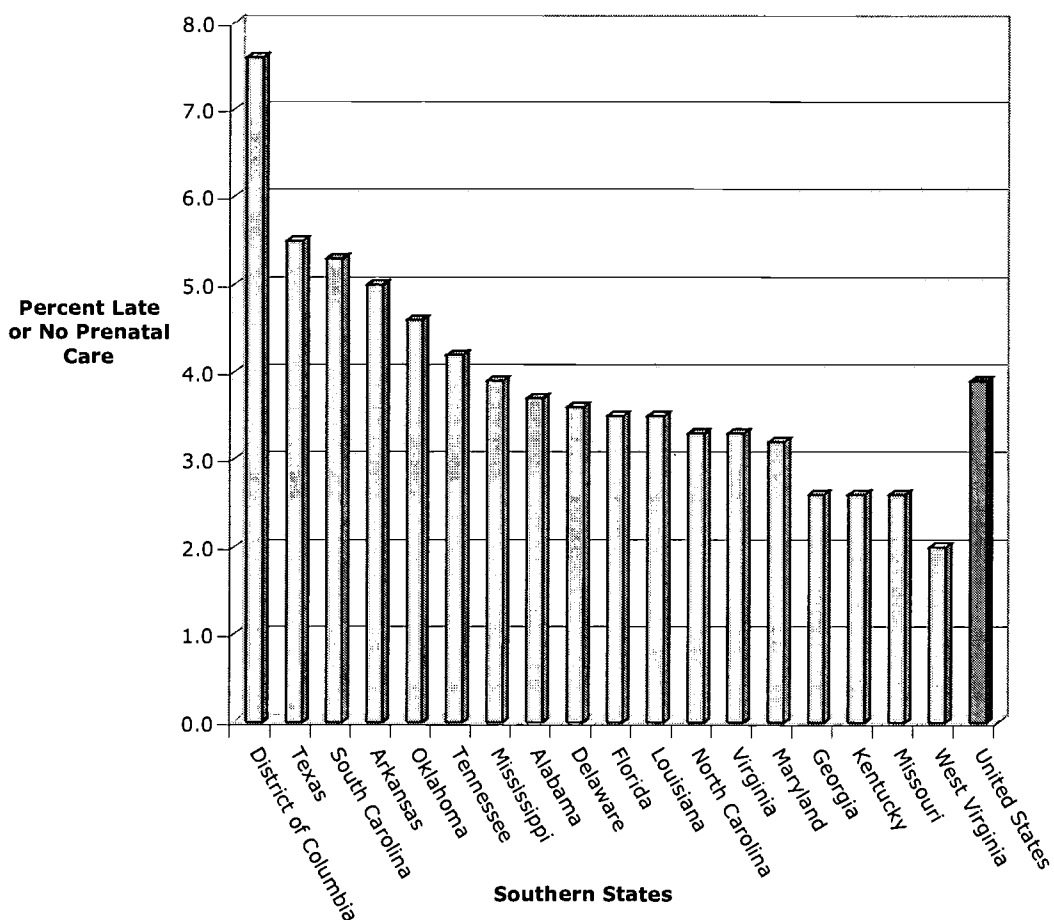
Chart 8
Number of Low Birthweight Babies, 2000



Refer to Table 8, Low Birthweight Babies. Source: National Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 50, No. 5, February 12, 2002, Table 10.

In 2000, forty-three (43) percent of all low birthweight babies (weight less than 5.5 pounds) were born in the Southern Region.

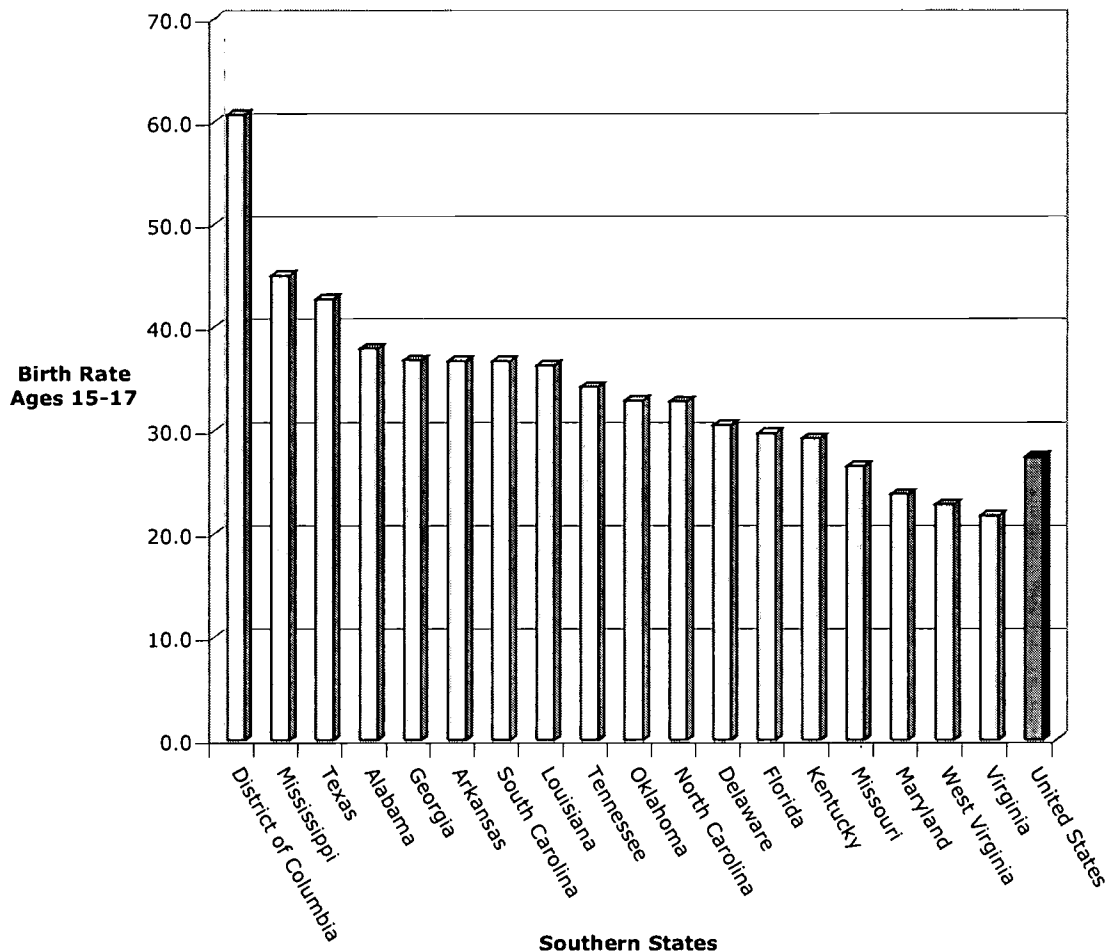
Chart 9
Percent of Mothers with Late or No Prenatal Care, 2000



Refer to Table 9, Percent of Mothers With Late or No Prenatal Care, 2000.
 Source: National Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 50, No. 5, February 12, 2002,
 Table 34. Care beginning in the third trimester is considered late.

In 2000, in five (5) southern states and the District of Columbia, the percentage of mothers with late or no prenatal care exceeded the United States percentage.

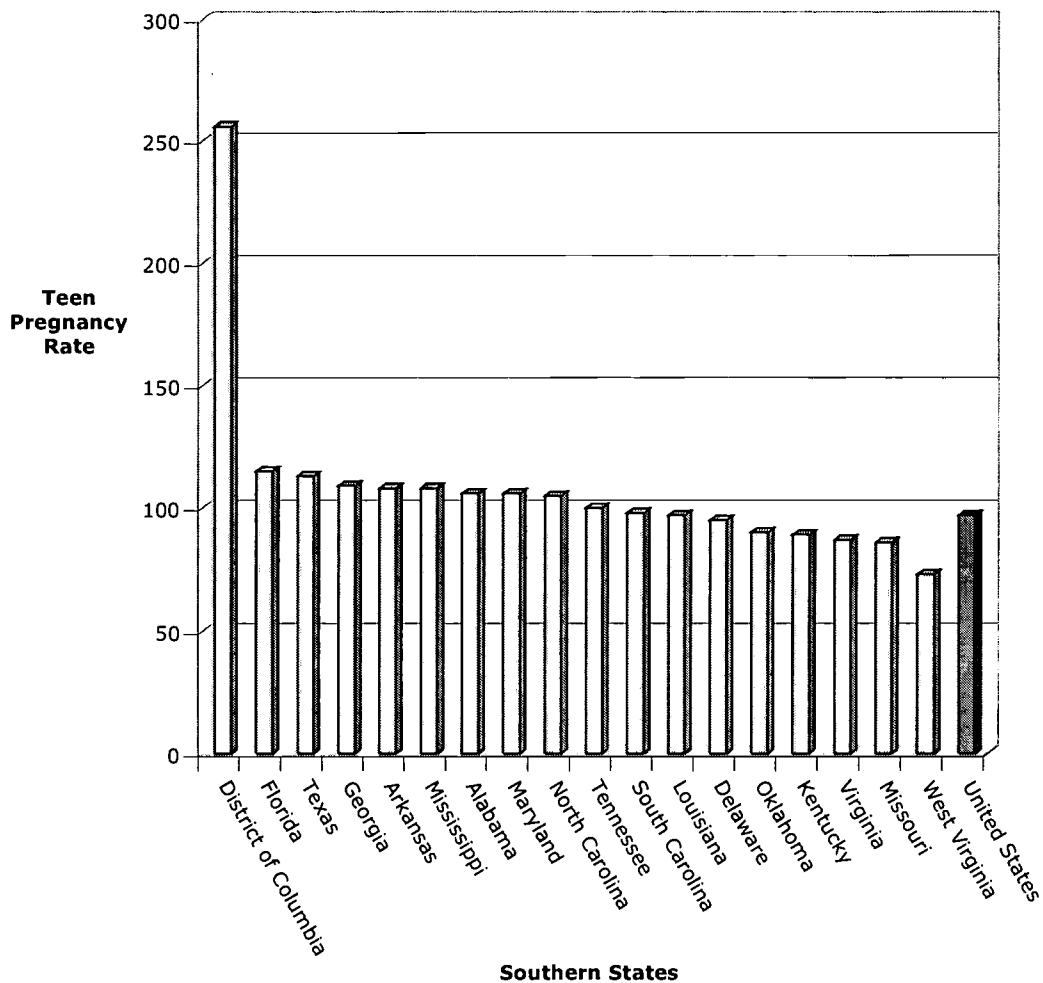
Chart 10
Teen Birth Rates, Ages 15-17, 2000



Refer to Table 10, Birth Rates 2000. Source: National Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 50, No. 5, Tables 10 and 10W, Revised, May 15, 2002. Birth rates are live births per 1,000 women ages 15-17 in each area.

Thirteen (13) southern states and the District of Columbia exceeded the 2000 United States birth rate for teens ages 15-17.

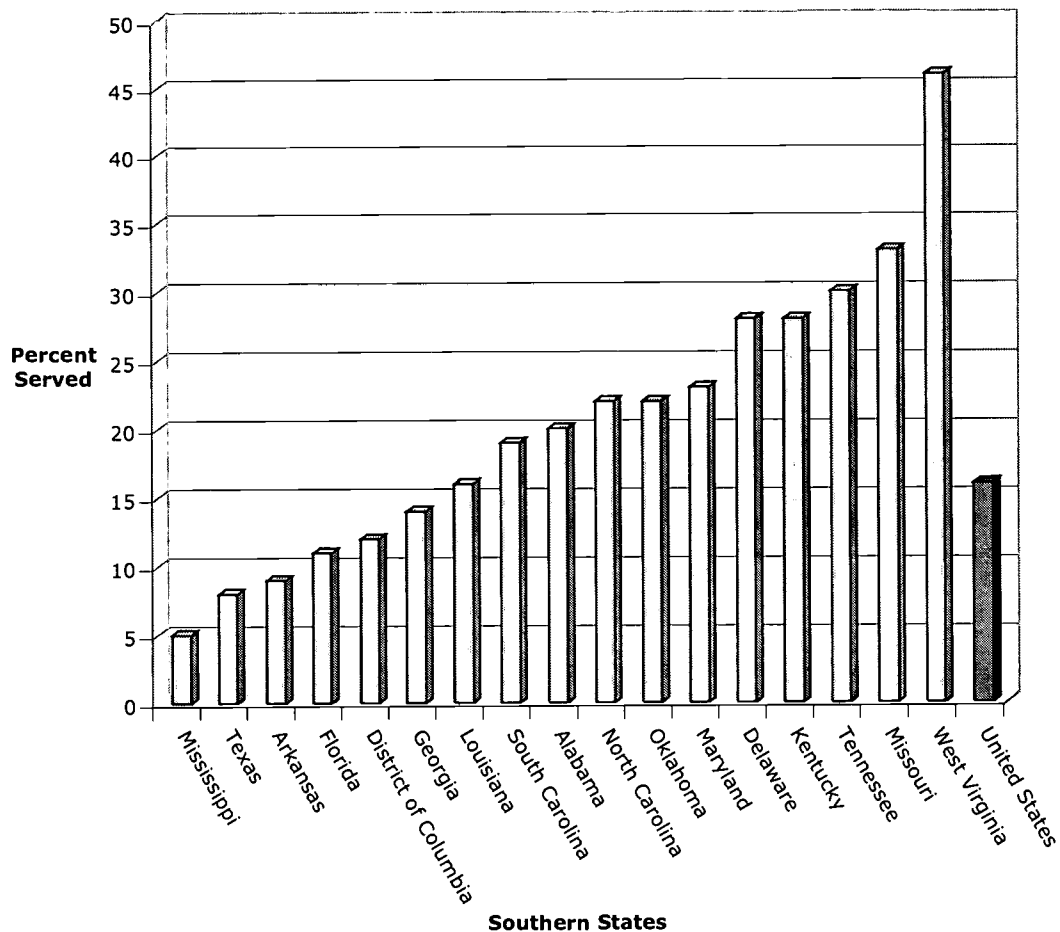
Chart 11
Teen Pregnancy Rates, Ages 15-19, 1996



Refer to Table 11, Teen Pregnancy Rates (Ages 15-19), 1996. Source: The Guttmacher Report on Public Policy, Volume 2, No. 3, June 1999. The Alan Guttmacher Institute 1999. Pregnancy rates per 1,000 women ages 15-19.

Ten (10) southern states and the District of Columbia exceeded the United States pregnancy rate for teens ages 15-19 in 1996.

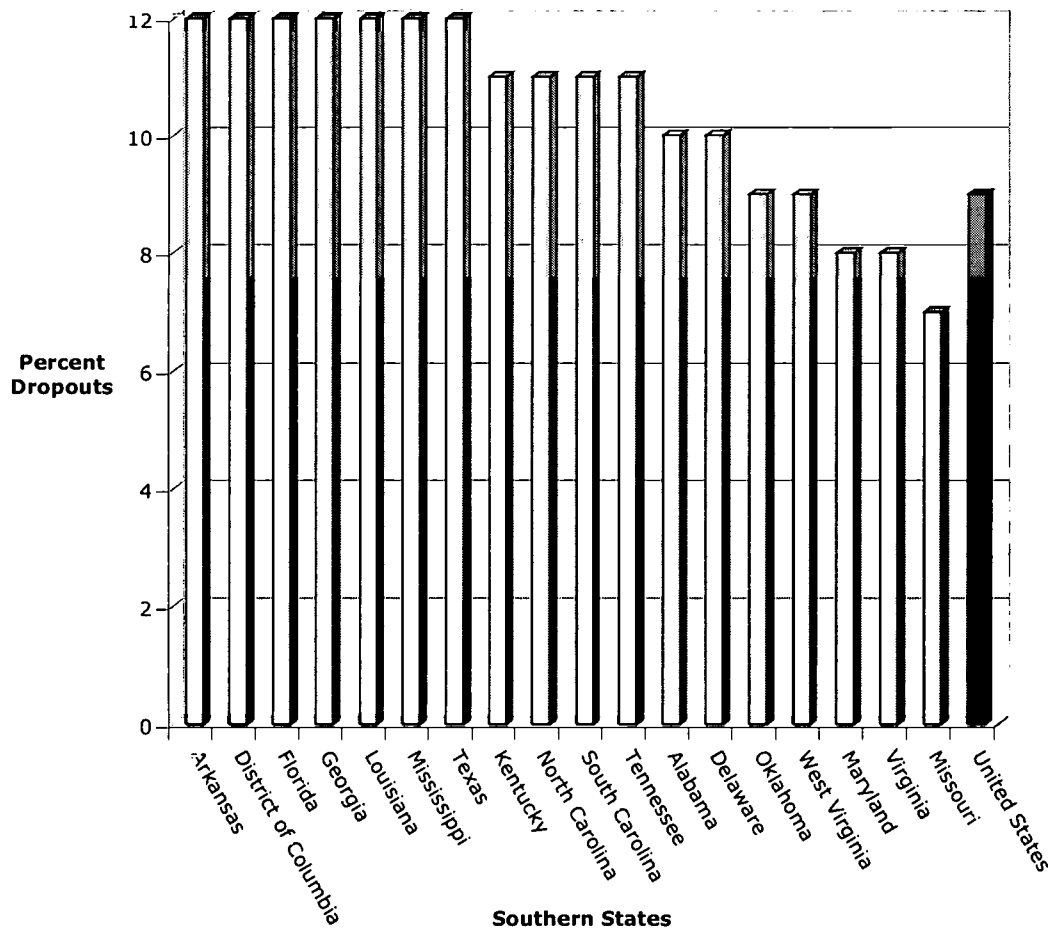
Chart 12
State/Federal Child Care Subsidies:
Percent of Eligible Children Served



Refer to Table 12, State Child Care Eligibility Levels, Number of Children Potentially Eligible, and Percent of Children Served. Source: Southern Institute on Children and Families, December 2000, derived from data in Access to Child Care for Low-Income Working Families, US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, October 1999. Estimates are based on average monthly number of children served.

The southern states serve only fifteen (15) percent of children eligible for the state/federal child care subsidy program.

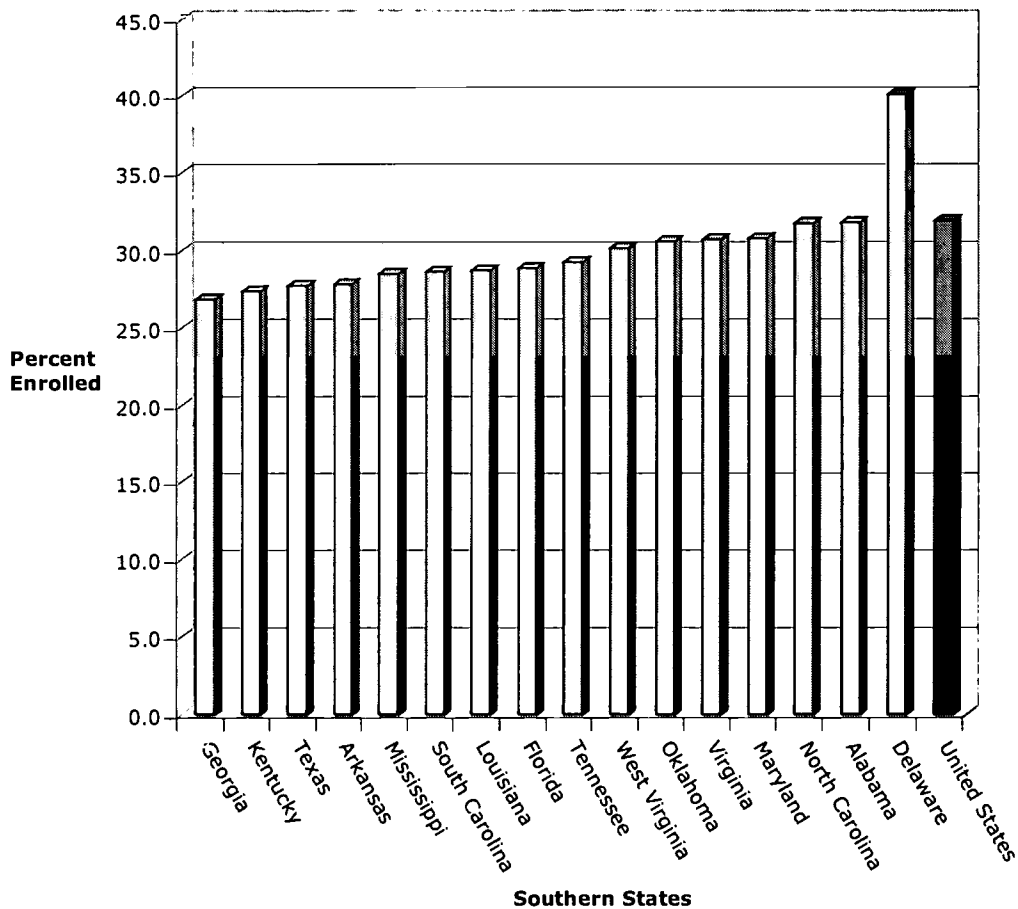
Chart 13
Percent of High School Dropouts, Ages 16-19, 1999



Refer to Table 13, High School Dropouts, Ages 16-19, 1999. Source: Kids Count 2002. The Annie E. Casey Foundation. Three-year average of data from 1998-2000.

Twelve (12) southern states and the District of Columbia had dropout rates for ages 16-19 above the United States median of nine (9) percent in 1999.

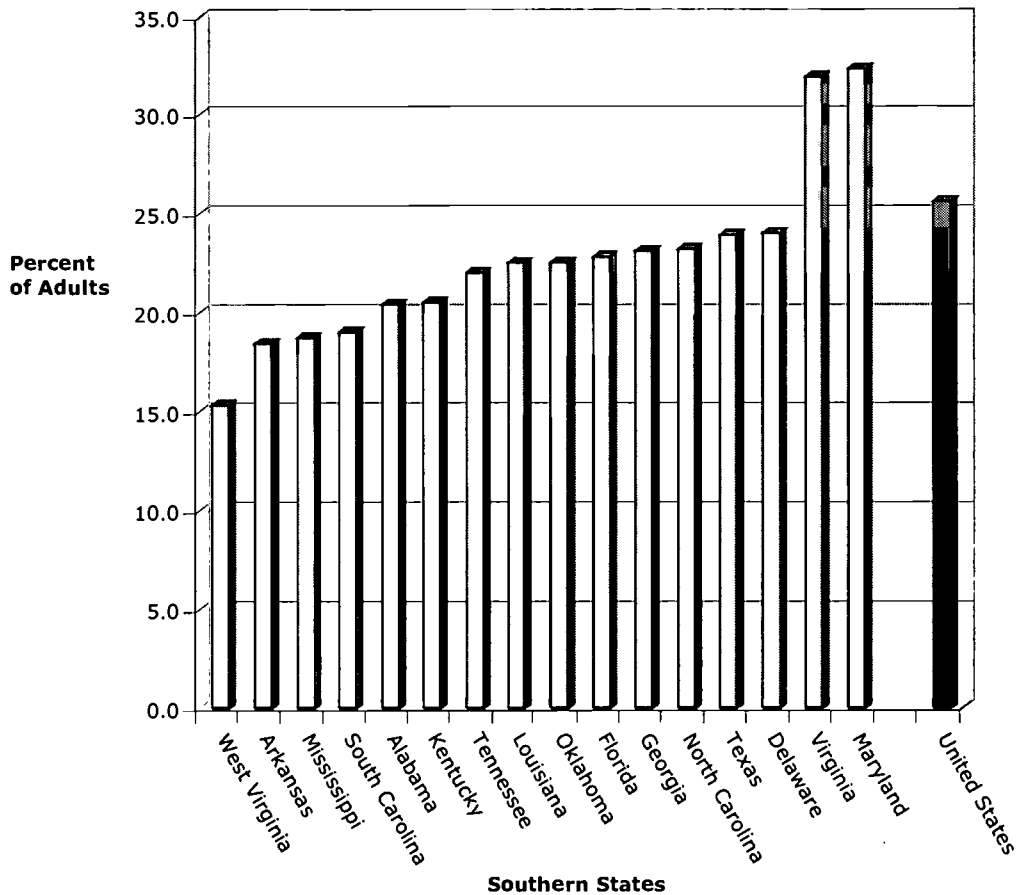
Chart 14
Percent of Age Group 18-24 Years Enrolled in
College Full Time or Part Time, 1997



Refer to Table 14, Percent of Age Group of 18 - 24 Years Enrolled in College Full Time or Part Time. Source: Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) Fact Book 2001.

All but one southern state had a lower percentage than the United States of young adults ages 18-24 enrolled in college full time or part time.

Chart 15
Percent of Adults Age 25 and Older With Bachelor's
Degrees or Higher, 2000



Refer to Table 15, Educational Attainment of the Adult Population Age 25 and Older, 2000. Source: Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) Fact Book 2000/2001.

Fourteen (14) southern states had a smaller percentage than did the United States of adults ages 25 and older with a Bachelor's degree or higher.

**CHARTBOOK OF MAJOR INDICATORS:
CONDITIONS PLACING
CHILDREN IN THE SOUTH AT RISK**

**Appendix
of Supporting Tables**

Table 1
Median Household Income, 2000

State	Median Income
Alabama	\$33,105
Arkansas	\$30,293
Delaware	\$50,154
District of Columbia	\$38,752
Florida	\$37,998
Georgia	\$42,887
Kentucky	\$37,186
Louisiana	\$30,219
Maryland	\$51,695
Mississippi	\$31,528
Missouri	\$47,462
North Carolina	\$38,829
Oklahoma	\$32,445
South Carolina	\$37,119
Tennessee	\$33,885
Texas	\$39,842
Virginia	\$50,069
West Virginia	\$29,052
Southern Region	\$38,473
Illinois	\$46,435
Indiana	\$39,717
Iowa	\$42,993
Kansas	\$37,705
Michigan	\$46,181
Minnesota	\$50,865
Nebraska	\$38,574
North Dakota	\$35,349
Ohio	\$43,894
South Dakota	\$36,172
Wisconsin	\$45,349
Midwestern Region	
Connecticut	\$50,360
Maine	\$41,597
Massachusetts	\$46,947
New Hampshire	\$48,928
New Jersey	\$51,032
New York	\$41,605
Pennsylvania	\$43,742
Rhode Island	\$42,973
Vermont	\$38,150
Northeastern Region	\$45,037
Alaska	\$50,746
Arizona	\$41,456
California	\$46,802
Colorado	\$48,506
Hawaii	\$48,026
Idaho	\$37,462
Montana	\$32,045
Nevada	\$44,755
New Mexico	\$35,254
Oregon	\$42,440
Utah	\$45,230
Washington	\$42,024
Wyoming	\$39,026
Western Region	
United States	\$42,148

Source: US Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, March 1999, 2000, and 2001.

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Table 2
Percent of Population in Poverty
1998 - 2000

State	Percent of Population in Poverty
Alabama	14.6
Arkansas	15.8
Delaware	9.8
District of Columbia	17.3
Florida	12.1
Georgia	12.6
Kentucky	12.5
Louisiana	18.6
Maryland	7.3
Mississippi	15.5
Missouri	9.7
North Carolina	13.2
Oklahoma	14.1
South Carolina	11.9
Tennessee	13.3
Texas	14.9
Virginia	8.1
West Virginia	15.8
Southern Region	
Illinois	10.5
Indiana	8.2
Iowa	7.9
Kansas	10.4
Michigan	10.2
Minnesota	7.8
Nebraska	10.6
North Dakota	12.7
Ohio	11.1
South Dakota	9.3
Wisconsin	8.8
Midwestern Region	
Connecticut	7.6
Maine	9.8
Massachusetts	10.2
New Hampshire	7.4
New Jersey	8.1
New York	14.7
Pennsylvania	9.9
Rhode Island	10.0
Vermont	10.1
Northeastern Region	
Alaska	8.3
Arizona	13.6
California	14.0
Colorado	8.5
Hawaii	10.5
Idaho	13.3
Montana	16.0
Nevada	10.0
New Mexico	19.3
Oregon	12.8
Utah	8.1
Washington	9.4
Wyoming	11.0
Western Region	
United States	11.9

Source: Poverty in the United States: 2000.
 US Census Bureau, Current Population
 Survey, March 1999, 2000, and 2001. Issued
 September 2001. Based on a three (3) year
 average of 1998-2000.

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Table 3
Percent of Children Under Age 18 in Poverty
in the United States, 2000

State	Percent of Children Under Age 18 in Poverty
Alabama	20.6
Arkansas	27.3
Delaware	16.9
District of Columbia	23.4
Florida	16.1
Georgia	16.4
Kentucky	15.2
Louisiana	23.4
Maryland	6.9
Mississippi	16.4
Missouri	10.6
North Carolina	18.5
Oklahoma	23.7
South Carolina	16.3
Tennessee	20.2
Texas	20.9
Virginia	8.3
West Virginia	18.3
Southern Region	
Illinois	17.6
Indiana	10.5
Iowa	8.7
Kansas	13.0
Michigan	13.8
Minnesota	8.5
Nebraska	12.2
North Dakota	14.1
Ohio	15.3
South Dakota	12.7
Wisconsin	13.8
Midwestern Region	
Connecticut	9.2
Maine	8.9
Massachusetts	13.9
New Hampshire	7.7
New Jersey	11.1
New York	19.0
Pennsylvania	11.0
Rhode Island	13.8
Vermont	16.1
Northeastern Region	
Alaska	10.6
Arizona	19.6
California	19.2
Colorado	10.9
Hawaii	13.9
Idaho	18.8
Montana	24.7
Nevada	11.9
New Mexico	23.5
Oregon	18.7
Utah	11.6
Washington	13.8
Wyoming	14.6
Western Region	
United States	
	16.1

Source: US Census Bureau, Current Population Survey,
March 2001, Table 25. Poverty Status by State in 2000.
(Based on a November 2001 weighted correction.)

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Table 4
Average Monthly Number of Families Receiving TANF
Federal Fiscal Year 2001

State	Average Monthly Number of Families
Alabama	18,367
Arkansas	11,607
Delaware	5,421
District of Columbia	16,336
Florida	58,849
Georgia	50,531
Kentucky	36,127
Louisiana	25,176
Maryland	27,915
Mississippi	15,657
Missouri	45,556
North Carolina	42,654
Oklahoma	13,973
South Carolina	16,938
Tennessee	59,541
Texas	130,893
Virginia	29,271
West Virginia	14,732
Southern Region	619,544
Illinois	62,030
Indiana	41,288
Iowa	20,195
Kansas	13,035
Michigan	71,746
Minnesota	38,558
Nebraska	9,486
North Dakota	2,999
Ohio	85,005
South Dakota	2,713
Wisconsin	17,680
Midwestern Region	364,735
Connecticut	25,650
Maine	9,661
Massachusetts	42,570
New Hampshire	5,659
New Jersey	45,325
New York	226,921
Pennsylvania	82,644
Rhode Island	15,229
Vermont	5,524
Northeastern Region	459,183
Alaska	5,847
Arizona	33,194
California	473,615
Colorado	10,639
Hawaii	13,023
Idaho	1,293
Montana	4,934
Nevada	7,466
New Mexico	19,322
Oregon	18,638
Utah	7,487
Washington	54,160
Wyoming	524
Western Region	650,142
United States	2,093,604

Source: US Department of Health and Human Services,
Administration for Children and Families, 2002. TANF is the
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program.

Table 5
Average Monthly Household Participation
In Food Stamps
Federal Fiscal Year 2001

State	Number of Participating Households
Alabama	161,372
Arkansas	102,633
Delaware	13,602
District of Columbia	33,344
Florida	425,955
Georgia	235,633
Kentucky	173,102
Louisiana	198,152
Maryland	97,026
Mississippi	115,994
Missouri	195,480
North Carolina	213,420
Oklahoma	113,374
South Carolina	130,055
Tennessee	226,224
Texas	500,129
Virginia	149,595
West Virginia	94,794
Southern Region	3,179,884
Illinois	363,570
Indiana	146,509
Iowa	54,437
Kansas	56,500
Michigan	285,277
Minnesota	93,086
Nebraska	34,729
North Dakota	15,921
Ohio	292,221
South Dakota	17,160
Wisconsin	86,588
Midwestern Region	1,445,998
Connecticut	81,857
Maine	53,151
Massachusetts	104,838
New Hampshire	17,951
New Jersey	144,067
New York	683,969
Pennsylvania	342,814
Rhode Island	32,632
Vermont	19,090
Northeastern Region	1,480,369
New Mexico	62,484
Alaska	13,184
Arizona	107,799
California	622,602
Colorado	69,408
Hawaii	50,983
Idaho	24,034
Montana	26,481
Nevada	31,957
Oregon	137,199
Utah	32,647
Washington	141,387
Wyoming	9,129
Western Region	1,329,294
United States	7,446,836

Source: US Department of Agriculture.

Table 6
Estimate of Uninsured Children (Ages 0-18)

State	All Children	Estimate of All Uninsured Children	
		#	%
Alabama	1,220,700	119,800	9.8%
Arkansas	731,700	90,900	12.4%
Delaware	218,500	15,300	7.0%
District of Columbia	111,300	9,300	8.3%
Florida	3,682,400	528,600	14.4%
Georgia	2,116,100	146,900	6.9%
Kentucky	997,700	74,700	7.5%
Louisiana	1,153,500	202,700	17.6%
Maryland	1,294,200	76,800	5.9%
Mississippi	811,800	83,700	10.3%
Missouri	1,534,800	79,200	5.2%
North Carolina	1,976,300	189,700	9.6%
Oklahoma	852,000	143,300	16.8%
South Carolina	918,300	103,300	11.2%
Tennessee	1,447,400	87,800	6.1%
Texas	5,995,200	1,129,400	18.8%
Virginia	1,831,700	200,000	10.9%
West Virginia	391,300	33,400	8.5%
Southern Region	27,284,900	3,314,800	12.1%
Illinois	3,577,700	351,200	9.8%
Indiana	1,566,500	146,500	9.4%
Iowa	777,900	40,600	5.2%
Kansas	714,500	74,400	10.4%
Michigan	2,953,500	224,900	7.6%
Minnesota	1,375,900	97,400	7.1%
Nebraska	479,400	34,200	7.1%
North Dakota	159,500	17,300	10.8%
Ohio	3,284,500	286,700	8.7%
South Dakota	191,600	14,700	7.7%
Wisconsin	1,621,000	99,800	6.2%
Midwestern Region	16,702,000	1,387,700	8.3%
Connecticut	921,500	30,400	3.3%
Maine	319,600	20,100	6.3%
Massachusetts	1,645,600	91,000	5.5%
New Hampshire	357,200	20,500	5.7%
New Jersey	2,189,000	161,100	7.4%
New York	5,011,300	385,300	7.7%
Pennsylvania	3,120,000	140,900	4.5%
Rhode Island	242,000	5,100	2.1%
Vermont	173,900	13,000	7.5%
Northeastern Region	13,980,100	867,400	6.2%
Alaska	220,700	36,800	16.7%
Arizona	1,457,200	253,100	17.4%
California	10,135,600	1,466,200	14.5%
Colorado	1,205,600	162,600	13.5%
Hawaii	322,200	24,800	7.7%
Idaho	370,700	61,400	16.6%
Montana	234,500	41,200	17.6%
Nevada	624,500	101,300	16.2%
New Mexico	554,000	120,000	21.7%
Oregon	910,900	117,500	12.9%
Utah	764,800	73,100	9.6%
Washington	1,570,600	131,800	8.4%
Wyoming	137,800	18,500	13.4%
Western Region	18,509,100	2,608,300	14.1%
United States	76,475,800	8,178,100	10.7%

Source: The Urban Institute, 2002. Based on merged March 2000 and 2001 Current Population Survey data, weighted to represent one year, with adjustments for reported changes in Medicaid and SCHIP as of December 2001. Note: Estimates are subject to error due to small CPS sample sizes in some states.

Table 7
Infant Mortality, 1999

States	Number of Infant Deaths	Rate of Infant Deaths	Number of Neonatal Deaths	Neonatal Deaths as Percent of Infant Deaths
Alabama	606	9.8	383	63.2
Arkansas	292	8.0	168	57.5
Delaware	79	7.4	55	69.6
District of Columbia	113	15.0	88	77.9
Florida	1,452	7.4	967	66.6
Georgia	1,040	8.2	699	67.2
Kentucky	411	7.6	261	63.5
Louisiana	621	9.2	394	63.4
Maryland	601	8.4	420	69.9
Mississippi	433	10.1	265	61.2
Missouri	585	7.8	385	65.8
North Carolina	1,038	9.1	767	73.9
Oklahoma	417	8.5	243	58.3
South Carolina	563	10.2	392	69.6
Tennessee	599	7.7	389	64.9
Texas	2,164	6.2	1,365	63.1
Virginia	693	7.3	483	69.7
West Virginia	154	7.4	97	63.0
Southern Region	11,861		7,821	65.9
Illinois	1,550	8.5	1,083	69.9
Indiana	686	8.0	452	65.9
Iowa	215	5.7	128	59.5
Kansas	283	7.3	191	67.5
Michigan	1,077	8.1	734	68.2
Minnesota	408	6.2	261	64.0
Nebraska	163	6.8	108	66.3
North Dakota	52	6.8	33	63.5
Ohio	1,244	8.2	845	67.9
South Dakota	94	8.9	57	60.6
Wisconsin	459	6.7	294	64.1
Midwestern Region	6,231		4,186	67.2
Connecticut	265	6.1	205	77.4
Maine	66	4.8	51	77.3
Massachusetts	417	5.2	332	79.6
New Hampshire	82	5.8	60	73.2
New Jersey	766	6.7	555	72.5
New York	1,627	6.4	1,142	70.2
Pennsylvania	1,058	7.3	743	70.2
Rhode Island	71	5.7	53	74.6
Vermont	38	5.8	22	57.9
Northeastern Region	4,390		3,163	72.1
Alaska	57	5.7	26	45.6
Arizona	548	6.8	363	66.2
California	2,800	5.4	1,852	66.1
Colorado	416	6.7	268	64.4
Hawaii	120	7.0	84	70.0
Idaho	134	6.7	92	68.7
Montana	72	6.7	32	44.4
Nevada	193	6.6	114	59.1
New Mexico	188	6.9	107	56.9
Oregon	261	5.8	191	73.2
Utah	224	4.8	148	66.1
Washington	400	5.0	256	64.0
Wyoming	42	6.9	25	59.5
Western Region	5,455		3,558	65.2
United States	27,937	7.1	18,728	67.0

Source: National Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 49, No. 8, September 21, 2001, Table 29. Rates are infant deaths (under 1 year) per 1,000 live births. Neonatal deaths occur to infants ages 0 - 27 days.

Table 8
Low Birthweight Babies, 2000

State	Number of Low Birthweight Babies	Percent of Live Births that are Low Birthweight
Alabama	6,166	9.7
Arkansas	3,234	8.6
Delaware	955	8.6
District of Columbia	908	11.9
Florida	16,255	8.0
Georgia	11,455	8.6
Kentucky	4,601	8.2
Louisiana	6,993	10.3
Maryland	6,413	8.6
Mississippi	4,694	10.7
Missouri	5,798	7.6
North Carolina	10,552	8.8
Oklahoma	3,705	7.5
South Carolina	5,419	9.7
Tennessee	7,345	9.2
Texas	26,754	7.4
Virginia	7,843	7.9
West Virginia	1,739	8.3
Southern Region	130,829	
Illinois	14,700	7.9
Indiana	6,426	7.4
Iowa	2,346	6.1
Kansas	2,740	6.9
Michigan	10,687	7.9
Minnesota	4,138	6.1
Nebraska	1,680	6.8
North Dakota	489	6.4
Ohio	12,304	7.9
South Dakota	639	6.2
Wisconsin	4,515	6.5
Midwestern Region	60,664	
Connecticut	3,199	7.4
Maine	820	6.0
Massachusetts	5,712	7.1
New Hampshire	922	6.3
New Jersey	8,936	7.7
New York	19,996	7.7
Pennsylvania	11,256	7.7
Rhode Island	893	7.2
Vermont	395	6.1
Northeastern Region	52,129	
Alaska	558	5.6
Arizona	5,977	7.0
California	32,912	6.2
Colorado	5,488	8.4
Hawaii	1,308	7.5
Idaho	1,362	6.7
Montana	678	6.2
Nevada	2,222	7.2
New Mexico	2,175	8.0
Oregon	2,584	5.6
Utah	3,115	6.6
Washington	4,513	5.6
Wyoming	516	8.3
Western Region	63,408	
United States	307,030	7.6

Source: National Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 50, No. 5, February 12, 2002, Table 10. Low birthweight is birthweight of less than 2500 grams (5 lbs. 8 oz.).

Table 9
Percent of Mothers with Late or No
Prenatal Care, 2000

State	Percent of Mothers with Late or No Prenatal Care
Alabama	3.7
Arkansas	5.0
Delaware	3.6
District of Columbia	7.6
Florida	3.5
Georgia	2.6
Kentucky	2.6
Louisiana	3.5
Maryland	3.2
Mississippi	3.9
Missouri	2.6
North Carolina	3.3
Oklahoma	4.6
South Carolina	5.3
Tennessee	4.2
Texas	5.5
Virginia	3.3
West Virginia	2.0
Southern Region	
Illinois	4.0
Indiana	3.8
Iowa	2.4
Kansas	2.8
Michigan	3.7
Minnesota	2.9
Nebraska	3.0
North Dakota	2.3
Ohio	3.9
South Dakota	3.6
Wisconsin	3.3
Midwestern Region	
Connecticut	1.9
Maine	1.9
Massachusetts	2.2
New Hampshire	1.4
New Jersey	4.9
New York	4.8
Pennsylvania	3.3
Rhode Island	1.3
Vermont	2.2
Northeastern Region	
Alaska	4.7
Arizona	6.8
California	3.1
Colorado	4.6
Hawaii	3.0
Idaho	3.9
Montana	3.2
Nevada	8.5
New Mexico	9.4
Oregon	3.8
Utah	4.7
Washington	3.3
Wyoming	3.9
Western Region	
United States	3.9

Source: National Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 50, No. 5,
February 12, 2002, Table 34. Note: Care beginning in third
trimester is considered late.

Table 10
Birth Rates, 2000

State	Birth Rate	Teen Birth Rate Ages 10 - 14	Teen Birth Rate Ages 15 - 17
Alabama	14.4	1.4	37.9
Arkansas	14.7	1.5	36.7
Delaware	14.5	1.2	30.5
District of Columbia	14.8	2.4	60.7
Florida	13.3	1.0	29.7
Georgia	16.7	1.4	36.8
Kentucky	14.1	1.0	29.2
Louisiana	15.5	1.7	36.3
Maryland	14.2	0.9	23.8
Mississippi	15.8	2.3	45.0
Missouri	13.9	0.7	26.5
North Carolina	15.5	1.2	32.8
Oklahoma	14.7	1.0	32.9
South Carolina	14.3	1.6	36.7
Tennessee	14.4	1.2	34.2
Texas	17.8	1.5	42.7
Virginia	14.2	0.8	21.7
West Virginia	11.6	0.5	22.8
Southern Region			
Illinois	15.2	0.9	28.5
Indiana	14.7	0.6	26.2
Iowa	13.3	0.5	17.4
Kansas	14.9	0.6	22.4
Michigan	13.7	0.6	21.3
Minnesota	14.0	0.5	15.6
Nebraska	14.8	0.5	19.3
North Dakota	12.2	0.0	12.5
Ohio	13.8	0.8	24.1
South Dakota	14.0	0.0	19.4
Wisconsin	13.1	0.5	18.3
Midwestern Region			
Connecticut	13.0	0.6	16.9
Maine	10.8	0.0	13.4
Massachusetts	13.2	0.4	15.0
New Hampshire	12.0	0.0	9.8
New Jersey	14.1	0.5	17.0
New York	14.2	0.6	20.1
Pennsylvania	12.2	0.7	19.6
Rhode Island	12.6	0.8	21.3
Vermont	10.9	0.0	10.6
Northeastern Region			
Alaska	16.0	0.0	23.6
Arizona	17.5	1.2	41.1
California	15.8	0.8	28.6
Colorado	15.8	0.8	28.6
Hawaii	14.9	0.0	24.7
Idaho	16.0	0.0	21.3
Montana	12.3	0.0	19.1
Nevada	16.4	0.9	34.2
New Mexico	15.6	1.1	40.2
Oregon	13.7	0.6	23.5
Utah	21.9	0.4	22.0
Washington	13.9	0.6	20.3
Wyoming	13.0	0.0	19.0
Western Region			
United States	14.7	0.9	27.4

Source: National Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 50, No. 5, Tables 10 and 10W, Revised, May 15, 2002. Birth rates are live births per 1,000 women in specified age groups in each area.

Table 11
Teen Pregnancy Rates, Ages 15-19, 1996

State	Pregnancy Rates
Alabama	106
Arkansas	108
Delaware	95
District of Columbia	256
Florida	115
Georgia	109
Kentucky	89
Louisiana	97
Maryland	106
Mississippi	108
Missouri	86
North Carolina	105
Oklahoma	90
South Carolina	98
Tennessee	100
Texas	113
Virginia	87
West Virginia	73
Southern Region	
Illinois	106
Indiana	88
Iowa	58
Kansas	79
Michigan	87
Minnesota	56
Nebraska	62
North Dakota	50
Ohio	81
South Dakota	59
Wisconsin	61
Midwestern Region	
Connecticut	86
Maine	57
Massachusetts	79
New Hampshire	57
New Jersey	97
New York	108
Pennsylvania	70
Rhode Island	87
Vermont	60
Northeastern Region	
Alaska	75
Arizona	118
California	125
Colorado	90
Hawaii	101
Idaho	70
Montana	65
Nevada	140
New Mexico	110
Oregon	90
Utah	60
Washington	85
Wyoming	74
Western Region	
United States	97

Source: The Guttmacher Report on Public Policy, Volume 2, No. 3, June 1999. The Alan Guttmacher Institute 1999. Pregnancy rates per 1,000 15-19 year old women.

Table 12
State Child Care Eligibility Levels, Number of Children Potentially
Eligible, and Percent of Children Served

State	State Eligibility Level at Initial Application as Percent of State Median Income, July 2000	Children Eligible for Child Care Subsidies under State Rules, October 1997	Percent of Potentially Eligible Children Receiving Child Care Subsidy, April-September 1998
Alabama	45%	103,500	20%
Arkansas	69%	100,200	9%
Delaware	52%	22,100	28%
District of Columbia	59%	31,500	12%
Florida	51%	421,900	11%
Georgia	56%	331,200	14%
Kentucky	57%	90,800	28%
Louisiana	75%	219,700	16%
Maryland	45%	91,300	23%
Mississippi	85%	160,000	5%
Missouri	41%	129,400	33%
North Carolina	75%	343,100	22%
Oklahoma	62%	178,800	22%
South Carolina	50%	115,200	19%
Tennessee	60%	183,600	30%
Texas	85%	1,013,400	8%
West Virginia	57%	28,200	46%
Southern Region			
United States	na	9,851,000	16%

Source: Southern Institute on Children and Families, December 2000. derived from data in Access to Child Care for Low-Income Working Families, US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, October 1999. Estimates are based on average monthly number of children served.

Table 13
High School Dropouts, Ages 16-19, 1999

State	Rank	Dropout Rate
Alabama	30	10
Arkansas	41	12
Delaware	30	10
District of Columbia	Not Ranked	12
Florida	41	12
Georgia	41	12
Kentucky	35	11
Louisiana	41	12
Maryland	14	8
Mississippi	41	12
Missouri	10	7
North Carolina	35	11
Oklahoma	22	9
South Carolina	35	11
Tennessee	35	11
Texas	41	12
Virginia	14	8
West Virginia	22	9
Southern Region		
Illinois	30	10
Indiana	10	7
Iowa	3	6
Kansas	22	9
Michigan	22	9
Minnesota	2	5
Nebraska	10	7
North Dakota	1	3
Ohio	14	8
South Dakota	14	8
Wisconsin	3	6
Midwestern Region		
Connecticut	14	8
Maine	3	6
Massachusetts	3	6
New Hampshire	14	8
New Jersey	3	6
New York	22	9
Pennsylvania	10	7
Rhode Island	30	10
Vermont	3	6
Northeastern Region		
Alaska	14	8
Arizona	50	17
California	22	9
Colorado	48	14
Hawaii	3	6
Idaho	35	11
Montana	14	8
New Mexico	35	11
Oregon	47	13
Utah	22	9
Washington	22	9
Western Region		
United States		9

Source: Kids Count 2002. The Annie E. Casey Foundation. Three-year average of data from 1998 - 2000.

Table 14**Percent of Age Group of 18-24 Years Enrolled in
College Full Time or Part Time, 1997**

State	Percent Enrolled
Alabama	31.8
Arkansas	27.8
Delaware	40.0
Florida	28.9
Georgia	26.9
Kentucky	27.4
Louisiana	28.7
Maryland	30.8
Mississippi	28.5
North Carolina	31.7
Oklahoma	30.6
South Carolina	28.6
Tennessee	29.2
Texas	27.7
Virginia	30.7
West Virginia	30.2
Southern Region	29.1

United States	31.9
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Source: Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) Fact Book 2001; United States Bureau of the Census: "Estimates of the Population of the United States, Regions, Divisions and States by Five-Year Age Groups and Sex: Annual Time Series, July 1, 1990 to July 1, 1997" (1999); "Estimates of the Population of the United States, Regions and States by Selected Age Groups and Sex: Annual Time Series, July 1, 1990, to July 1, 1997" (1999); and "Population Estimates for the United States and States by Single Year of Age and Sex: July 1, 1997" (2000) -- (www.census.gov). National Center for Education Statistics, unpublished data. "College" includes only two-year or four-year institutions that offer associate's or higher degrees. The population data upon which these rates are based include all people living in a state more than six months a year, including college students. The enrollment counts include all students enrolled in a state, regardless of their home state.

Table 15
Educational Attainment of the Adult Population Age 25
and Older, 2000

State	Percent With High School Diplomas or GEDs	Percent With Bachelor's Degrees or Higher
Alabama	77.5	20.4
Arkansas	81.7	18.4
Delaware	86.1	24.0
Florida	84.0	22.8
Georgia	82.6	23.1
Kentucky	78.7	20.5
Louisiana	80.8	22.5
Maryland	85.7	32.3
Mississippi	80.3	18.7
North Carolina	79.2	23.2
Oklahoma	86.1	22.5
South Carolina	83.0	19.0
Tennessee	79.9	22.0
Texas	79.2	23.9
Virginia	86.6	31.9
West Virginia	77.1	15.3
Southern Region		
United States	84.1	25.6

Source: Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) Fact Book 2000/2001. United States Bureau of the Census: "Educational Attainment in the United States" (various years); Current Population Survey (various years) -- (www.census.gov); and General Social and Economic Characteristics (various years) -- (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office).

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